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# Suffer the consequences of your actions

by Steve Bonspiel

Aboriginal people are not going to jail as often these days, but that does not mean we are committing less crime.

It stems back to the Jamie Gladue case that was heard before the Supreme Court in 1999. Her defence lawyer argued that an offender's Aboriginal background should be taken into consideration during trial.

Gladue pled guilty to manslaughter in the stabbing death of her boyfriend and received a three-year sentence in a lower court.

Her sentence was later upheld by the Supreme Court, but it recognized that the lower court did not take into account her Aboriginal background and thus, set precedent for all future cases.

The judgment was hailed, in part, as a way to lower the overwhelming number of Aboriginal inmates in jails across Canada, but instead it has created a deep divide in Native communities, especially the isolated ones.

Sentencing judges are now required to give special consideration based on the backgrounds of Aboriginal offenders, and to consider sentences that are "appropriate" to their cultures and communities such as healing circles and sweats.

We all know that the justice system has been unjust and unfair for many years to Aboriginals who used to be arrested for something as ridiculous as drinking at an off-reserve bar.

We were also routinely detained and our civil liberties violated for being drunk and disorderly in public and thrown in a cell overnight without representation or, in many cases, a valid reason for the arrest.

Our rights were constantly abused and we had nowhere to turn. We were left without a voice in our own lands.

Things have changed, but not necessarily for the better.

In places like Mistissini and Chisasibi there are violent offenders roaming the streets thanks to the Gladue case. Victims fear something as simple as going to the Northern or Meechum to buy groceries, knowing that at any time they could run into the person who sexually abused them just a few days prior.

Which brings us to the case of 33-year-old Davin Johnny, an Aboriginal man accused of jumping on a police car and throwing a brick through a cruiser's window in the aftermath of the Montreal Canadiens win over the Boston Bruins in game seven to close out the National Hockey League series on April 21.

He admitted in court that he hated cops and would do it again. As a result he was handed a slap on the wrist by Judge Juanita Westmoreland-Traoré to the tune of a 10 PM curfew. He also has to stay away from the Montreal Bell Centre.

Justice has now swung over to the other side, allowing Aboriginal offenders to get away with crimes other people would be thrown in jail for.

The message, from people like Kahnawake Grand Chief Mike Delisle, is that it is wrong. He told the media that he did not agree with the ruling as "we shouldn't be held to lesser standards than anyone else."

*The Nation* could not agree more.

Offenders cannot just do whatever they want and then hide behind the abuse they suffered as a child as an excuse. It is weak and it takes the responsibility away from them.

Granted a lot of people in our communities have dealt with horrible incidents that average Canadians have not, but there comes a time in our lives where we have to start looking in the mirror.

Giving people like Johnny a pass on incidents like this demonstrates to him and others like him that there are no consequences. Like a child who is not disciplined for hitting another child, rest assured those who go unpunished will do it again.

It is time for us to bring back the principles that got us here today: honour, pride and respect. Without these values our societies would be lawless and misguided.

If you see a child causing trouble, discipline him. If we let our kids get away with too much for too long, they could grow up to be just like Johnny.

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photo courtesy of:  
Darryl S. Hester



## Decoy making for dummies

The wind bellowed out its fury over the small man-made pond, the waves cascaded over the rim of the sod dikes, the goose decoys posted rock-solid in the pounding wake of your average south-wind spring day. The conditions were beautiful only to the hunter, as the clouds loomed low in the sky, limiting the flying level of the geese to less than a hundred feet.

A flock flew by, circled, then landed amongst the decoys. After the kill, the accolades for the good hunt were linked to the skill of the decoy-maker, using time-honoured traditional methods, local materials, simple tools and some paint.

The decoys were made of saltwater-soaked and sun-dried cedar, the heads from a crooked elbow branch from the black pine and carved roughly by saw, filed and hewn using a moogoodagan (crooked knife). Several decoys a year produced a pond full of enticers, drawing in the geese like magnets to metal.

The secret? The hefty weight of the wood that made the decoy even more lifelike in stature, the kind of weight that could withstand heavy winds and not banter around looking like a lame duck or skitter sideways left and right unnaturally, unnerving the head goose enough not to land, when using modern-day plastic decoys.

The art of decoying was always determined by the nature of what you want to lure into your line of sight. Once, a wily hunter from Nemaska decided to post a large life-size moose decoy atop a hill, not far from the James Bay highway. It worked well and he bagged his kill, just as he planned. But he decided to leave the decoy a while longer, then eventually leaving it for a year or two.

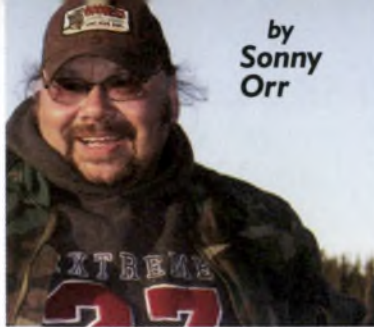
When he trekked up the hill it was mounted on in order to spruce it again for another season, he was amazed to

see that the entire decoy was full of bullet holes. There were so many that decoy looked screened and the sunrays streamed through it easily, to mark out some sort of weird well-lit shadow on the ground. When he grabbed his prize decoy, it crumbled in his fingers. The motto: don't leave your decoys out too long.

Another new method that seems to work well for snow geese is the ordinary white-plastic shopping bag. Just stuff it and shape the handles into a head, stick it to the ground with a stick and voilà, a snow-geese decoy. One decoy that was supposed to be a trail marker – just a rock painted white – ended up attracting those silly snow geese to the astonishment of a nearby hunter, who had spent hundreds of dollars for new decoys the previous fall. But they didn't work as well as the primitive trail markers. The motto, cheap handmade decoys work just as well as expensive manufactured ones.

Tamarack decoys, common on the lower shores of James Bay, serve their purpose ideally, except for the time it takes to make them. They are the perfect type of decoy. Now, those decoys are worth more than the plastic ones in art value alone. So the last motto is: make your own decoys, sell them to the highest bidder and then buy the plastic ones later on.

I tend to prefer to use a few strategically placed decoys to lure in the real thing, and then use the real birds for decoys. The motto, kill a few and use them as bait. Whichever your preference, the list will go on in the number of ways you can lure in geese or other animals to your favourite blind. But the motto is: get some food on the table, any which way you can!



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# Digging for gold

## Value of gold skyrocketing, mining companies eager to do business

By Steve Bonspiel

What was old is new again as Metanor Resources Inc. has announced plans to revitalize an old gold mine next to Bachelor Lake near Waswanipi. They are also looking to do exploration diamond drilling on a property south of Cree territory.

And so far, the Cree response has been good.

"One positive thing is the people and the community of Waswanipi are involved in this project, including the trappers," said Waswanipi Chief John Kitchen. "They are satisfied and that's the main thing. We didn't want to leave them aside and do all the work and then say sign here. As long as they follow the steps from the beginning, it's a good project."

The mine has gone through the first phase of the joint Cree/Quebec environmental review Committee's (COMEX) requests to answer questions related to the effect it will have on the Cree economy, its economic viability as well as the proposed lifespan of the mine, which is estimated at roughly 12 years.

The next phase is to ensure the environmental and social impacts of the mine are low enough to be acceptable to COMEX's standards.

"The question for us for phase two would be to weigh the economic and social benefits for the community and to find out what's been done," said Brian Craik, one of two Cree representatives sitting on COMEX's board.

The current phase includes gathering of a bulk sample of 50,000 tonnes. Metanor also has to secure the proper permit from Quebec to continue past August, when their current one expires.

"We asked them for more information of what they were finding out from the old deposits and they said they weren't ready yet," said Craik.

The mine, currently operating as an open-pit mine, was shut down and purchased by different companies numerous times since the 1970s as gold prices and demand dipped to an all-time low.

These days, gold has skyrocketed and is worth almost US\$900 an ounce, more than four times its value just a few years ago.

"It's something we have to do as a First Nation to create employment and training for our youth," said Chief Kitchen, who hosted a mining conference in March in Waswanipi. "We have to take time with them and solve the social issues they have. Work is the answer to social issues."

Under the Paix des Braves, Crees get a better share of the proverbial pie when it comes to jobs and economic spin-offs. In the case of the Bachelor Lake Mine, Crees will hold 40 of the 150 jobs once operations are in full swing, according to President and CEO Ghislain Morin.

Metanor purchased the rights to the mine from Campbell Resources three years ago.

"We have a good relationship together," Morin told the *Nation*. "We employ Crees from Waswanipi and they're good workers. We like to work with the Cree Nation."

Metanor is currently in the midst of sinking their shafts to mine for gold another 1000 feet. They are convinced the mine can be profitable for years to come and they recently had their third pour – the process to make gold bars – in late April.

Morin also mentioned economic opportunities for Waswanipi such as the use of local carpenters and the purchase of fuel from the community.

"There's no impact there at all," said Morin, when asked about the effect the mine will have on the land. "We are re-circulating all the water back to the mill, so none of it will be affecting nature at all."

### **"EVERY MINE IS DIFFERENT IN CREE TERRITORY. IS IT A RICH MINE OR A MARGINAL ONE? WE DEVELOP OUR STRATEGY BASED ON THOSE FACTORS."**

The Grand Council of the Crees likes to take a collaborative strategy when dealing with new or re-opened mines in the territory.

Executive Director Bill Namagoose cited the importance of dealing on an individual basis with each mine.

"We take the position that all the natural resources in Cree traditional territory are Cree resources," he said.

"Every mine is different in Cree territory. Is it a rich mine or a marginal one? We develop our strategy based on those factors. When we negotiate we can't kill the mine with excessive demands."

Namagoose said deals will proceed as long as everything fits into the Cree strategy and adheres to their way of life and does not impact the environment or land negatively. "It's a good job-creation strategy, it's good for the Crees."

"The Quebec government has a more collaborative and cooperative approach to Crees," he said.

Quebec learned a hard lesson in the 1990s when lobbying at the United Nations in New York City and intense media pressure led to the cancellation of \$20 billion in import/export contracts for Hydro-Québec through the nixing of the damming of the Great Whale River.

"That hurt Quebec a lot," said Namagoose. "Now both governments have a better approach under the Paix des Braves and they include Crees in any potential projects on the territory. They learned their lesson."



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# The floods return

## Kashechewan is evacuated for fourth time in four years

By Steve Bonspiel

The troubled northern Ontario Cree community of Kashechewan is dealing with uncertainty once again as several hundred residents had to be evacuated April 25 due to imminent flooding.

Rapidly rising waters caused by the break-up of the ice cover on the Albany River is expected to continue to threaten the community and neighboring Fort Albany well into the spring.

Officials from the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources are working with the bands and Emergency Management Ontario to ensure the safety of those at risk, which include the sick, the elderly and small children.

"I RECOMMENDED THE RELOCATION BECAUSE OF THE BENEFITS IT GIVES TO THE COMMUNITY OF KASHECHEWAN."

Roughly 600 people were flown to places like Cochrane and Sault Ste. Marie.

"Our first priority is the safety of the people of Kashechewan and other James Bay communities," said Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services Rick Bartolucci.

There is a fear that the increasing water levels could threaten the integrity of the dike that surrounds Kashechewan. If so, emergency plans are being worked on to evacuate the entire community for the fourth time in as many years.

Chief Jonathan Solomon could not be reached for comment.

Severe weather April 25 forced the evacuations to take place over a couple of days as choppers could not reach 47 people who were finally flown out a day later.

Kashechewan has already dealt with numerous life-altering experiences including the closing of their only school for many months, an E.coli scare, mould that has affected a large number of houses and the annual flooding of the community. They also deal with the constant fear that the dike will become unstable or overflow.

After a boil-water advisory that lasted for years, residents continue to complain of scabies, chronic diarrhea, fevers and headaches and blame it on the poor quality of their water supply.

Alan Pope, a former Ontario provincial politician, presented 51 recommendations to Indian Affairs Minister Jim Prentice and the chief of Kashechewan on November 9, 2006.

In the report, he recommended that the community move next to Timmins, Ontario but also stressed that it retain the rights to its old community for traditional pursuits like hunting and fishing.

"The benefits of such a re-location are clear," said Pope in a statement. "This will offer the greatest advantage of improved eco-



Kashechewan underwater again.

nomic and individual opportunities to the members of the Kashechewan First Nation.

"I recommended the relocation because of the benefits it gives to the community of Kashechewan," he said.

Pope was appointed in the summer of 2006 as a special federal representative to make proposals for the benefit of the community.

In a referendum last year, Kashechewan residents decided to ignore the recommendations made in the Pope report and to re-build the community of 1900 a few kilometres from their current location downstream from the local sewer plant.

The Conservative government had the final word, however, and they decided to go with a \$200 million solution to re-build the crumbling town in the same location and to reinforce the dike.

"OUR FIRST PRIORITY IS THE SAFETY OF THE PEOPLE OF KASHECHEWAN AND OTHER JAMES BAY COMMUNITIES."

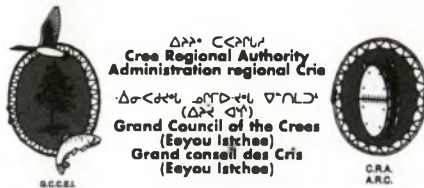
The community signed the deal last year, but things have been slow moving to repair the infrastructure.

It is expected to take 5-10 years to lessen the burden the housing shortage has caused within the community as well as to fix poorly constructed houses and to address other emergency concerns.

Suicide rates have also skyrocketed as the youth see a bleak future ahead of them under the current situation.

The flooding has also affected Fort Albany as over 330 residents were airlifted to Kapuskasing and other areas across northeastern Ontario April 28. Around 300 more residents were taken to Sault Ste. Marie and Thunder Bay the following day.





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Brian Sealhunter	Chisasibi
Ronald Stephen	Waskaganish
Frankie Tapiatic	Chisasibi
Alain Fireman	Chisasibi
Lesley Mattawashish	Mistissini

### **CREE GRADUATES - JUNE 2006**

#### **Vocational Diploma in Industrial Construction and Maintenance Mechanics**

Gabriel Cooper	Waswanipi
David Simon	Mistissini
Sarah Voyageur	Mistissini
Gaetan Verville	Waswanipi
Adam Voyageur	Mistissini

#### **Vocational Diploma in Automated Systems Electro-Mechanics**

Isik Mapachee	Waskaganish
Gilles Pelchat	Chisasibi
Jacqueline Pelchat	Chisasibi
Nancy Pelchat	Chisasibi
Christopher Swallow	Chisasibi
Stuart Wapachee	Mistissini
Samuel Weistche	Waswanipi

### **CREE GRADUATES - NOVEMBER 2007**

#### **Automated Systems Electro-Mechanics**

Stephane Petiquay	Waswanipi
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### **EXPECTED GRADUATES - JUNE 2008**

#### **Vocational Diploma in Industrial Construction and Maintenance Mechanics**

Daniel Gull	Waswanipi*
Clarence House	Chisasibi
Russell Jerome	Washaw-Sibii

Jason Kistabish	Washaw-Sibii
Cathy Iserhoff	Chisasibi
Paul Sealhunter	Chisasibi
Jonathan Theriault	Waswanipi

#### **Vocational Diploma in Industrial Construction and Maintenance Mechanics**

Neil Blacksmith	Mistissini**
Michael Cooper	Waswanipi
David Jolly	Mistissini
George Ottereyes	Waswanipi
Howard Voyageur	Mistissini

#### **College Diploma in Electronics Technology in Telecommunications/ Computers**

Bonnie Fireman	Chisasibi
Hugo Rupert	Chisasibi
Daniel Taylor	Waskaganish

\*Commission scolaire de Rouyn-Noranda

\*\*Commission scolaire de la baie James



## Early bird hunters bag the first goose

According to information received by *the Nation*, David Gull of Waswanipi shot the first goose at noon on April 11, this year, in Miquelon.

Bragging rights go out to Mistissini's Donald MacLeod. He got the first two geese in that community at 1pm on April 16. The man at the Point strikes again.

Over on the coast Larry Tomatuk shot Eastmain's first goose of the season on April 16.

Sliding up to Chisasibi, Chris Iserhoff reportedly got the first goose on April 15, although *the Nation* was not able to verify the date at press time.

Former Chief George Wapachee of Nemaska said that 11 geese were shot at Mathew Swallow's camp the week of April 14, but couldn't say for sure who got the first one. The excitement of the spring kept all eyes on the geese when the shooting started.

For the southernmost coastal community Brian Frank walked into Waskaganish with his head held high.

Wemindji's Derek Shanush saw and got the first one in his hometown.

Old Factory's George Stewart was the early-bird hunter this year.

In Whapmagoostui they go all out and divide up the hunting areas so there are three first goose hunters. For the South side it's Isaac Rupert. On the North side John Masty took the honours and Inland's Mario Rupert was reported to bag the first one.

After going on a wild goose chase to track down who got the first goose in Ouje-Bougoumou, Lana at the police station told *the Nation* that it was Charlie Bosum.

Out of respect for the animals Cree hunters don't brag about their skills so *the Nation* has done it for you. Good luck to all the hunters and especially the new hunters this year. Send a photo of the first goose and the new hunter. We'll print as many as we can.

## Early Pow Wow listings

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## Billy Diamond in Montreal hospital

Billy Diamond is recovering in a Montreal hospital after suffering a stroke April 23.

The former Grand Chief was discovered lying on the floor of his hotel room in Rouyn Noranda where he had collapsed shortly after waking at 6am with a severe cramp in his leg. Although fully conscious, he was not able to move and waited for four hours until he was found by Maya Riel Lachapelle.

Expected at a Niskamoon Board meeting, the other board members started to worry when he didn't show up by 9:30am.

The hospital at Rouyn-Noranda determined that Diamond had suffered a stroke which gave him partial paralysis on the left side of his body. After three days, Diamond was flown to the Montreal Neurological Institute where he underwent surgery due to a swelling of the brain.

Diamond's wife, Elizabeth, says he is recovering nicely and hasn't lost his sense of humour. He is already talking about his many professional commitments, she said.

Although Diamond is currently experiencing partial paralysis, his wife says the family is hopeful of a full recovery. The family would also like to thank all the well-wishers who thought of Diamond and prayed for him.

## Nation nominated for 6 awards!

*The Nation* magazine has picked up a bucket full of nominations again this year from the Quebec Community Newspapers Association.

The magazine has been nominated for the Best Feature Page for a story Steve Bonspiel wrote about a women's gathering of the Americas in Kahnawake.

Bonspiel picked up nominations in three categories, including Best Sports, Best Education and Best News.

*Nation* Editor Will Nicholls was nominated for Best General Editorial.

For a third year in a row *the Nation* has also won a Canadian Community Newspapers Association award. Danielle Valade picked up third place for Best Photo Essay (circulation 4000-12499) for her depiction of the annual Alouettes football camp in Mistissini.

# Happy Birthday to you



## THE CREE HEALTH BOARD CELEBRATES ITS 30 YEARS OF OPERATION

By Amy German

The Cree Health Board has just hit the big 3-0 and to celebrate it held a big bash in Chisasibi April 19-20 to commemorate three decades of accomplishments, commitment and diligent service and to honour the individuals who made it possible.

Diane Reid, chairperson for the CHB and a seven-year veteran, said, "Everyone was touched by the commitment and dedication of these people," recalling the gala celebration.

Though the CHB was created in 1978, Reid explains, "it stemmed from the James Bay Northern Quebec Agreement in 1975. Section 14 was the segment that related to health and social services for the Cree Nation so that marked 'the birth' of the (CHB) as a regional council.

"Before then you had the health services under the National Health and Welfare (act) under Northern Affairs. Back in 1975, the communities of Wemindji and Waskaganish had full nursing stations and Eastmain, Fort George and Chisasibi were the only communities that had health centres. We didn't have any permanent doctors in the communities only at the Fort George hospital," she said.

"In the fall of 1977, two years after the signing of the James Bay agreement, the Quebec government introduced Bill 10, which is the act that set in place the S-5 act, which governs the social services for the Cree and the Inuit. The original law governed the health and social services for northern Quebec back then and it was created on April 20, 1978," said Reid.

With that in mind, commemorating the CHB's inception on the exact date that it began 30 years ago was ideal.

"What is interesting about the way our health and social services are set up is that we not only have a regional council but we also have the integration of services under council boards. This is not the case in many of the regions. They will have separate institutional boards for hospitals, rehab centres and other medical centres whereas the Cree have it all under one regional council.



"We have the regional hospital in Chisasibi, which has two group homes for youth in difficulty – one in Chisasibi and one in Mistissini – and we have a regional re-adaptation centre for youth in Mistissini. Then we have nine clinics in the communities and the hospital in Chisasibi that we oversee. We also have nine new multi-services day centres that serve the elderly and the physically and mentally challenged clientele. Those are the establishments that the CBH oversees in the nine communities.

"Under the (CHB) we also have patient-service centres outside of the region. There's one in the Chibougamau hospital, one in the Val d'Or hospital and one in Montreal for the coordination of services for people who are referred outside the community for specialized care," said Reid, detailing the various facilities that comprise the CHB.

At the moment the CHB is awaiting approval for a new "extended services" centre in Mistissini that would feature services such as radiology, dialysis and a birthing centre. Though not a full-fledged hospital, the care centre would feature eight new patient beds. The final word on the project has to come directly from the Quebec government.

According to Reid, the CHB was given the go-ahead to hire the professionals required for the design aspects of the new facility, but the project has been on hold as there was a moratorium on funding for hospitals because of the mega-hospital projects in Montreal. "This is why we couldn't access any additional resources for our hospital," she said.

The birthing centre would also be part of a new pilot project, the first of its kind in the Cree communities. At the moment, said Reid, "we are still looking for the resources required. We have the operational and human resources for the birthing centre under the extended services of the Mistissini clinic but now we have to secure a building for it. Now the question is whether the ministry will accept the birthing centre as part of the extended services of the Mistissini health centre.

"We have approached the community of Mistissini to see if it would provide a facility that we could rent. It's much easier to rent a facility under the ministerial criteria than buy a whole new building because they don't have the funds to build new birthing centres," she said.

Due to the prevalence of gestational diabetes in the communities, it is common practice for many women to be flown out a month prior to giving birth due to the high-risk nature of these pregnancies. "This would most likely still be the practice in the case of high-risk pregnancies however the birthing centre could still set precedents.

"I am hoping that the pilot project for Mistissini will come through so that we can use it as a base for a resource centre for birthing. And, at the same time, it could be part of a training centre for other communities that want to set up their own birthing centres," said Reid.

The 30th anniversary event featured two days of speeches, power-point presentations, dancing, traditional drumming and an awards ceremony to celebrate those who had



Jack Blacksmith, Ashley Iserhoff, Diane Reid and James Bobbish with painting from Air Creebec



CBHSSJB Management Team



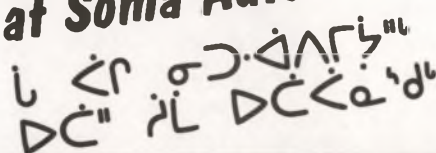
Lisa Petagumskum giving a speech





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devoted decades of service to the health of the Cree Nation. Square dancing was naturally part of the event. "It's a ritual within the Cree communities," said Reid. "Every general assembly within the Cree Nation ends with a feast and square dancing."

The event also featured hip-hop dancing put on by the James Bay Eeyou School of Hip-hop dancing. But in terms of enjoyment, Reid said, nothing could overshadow traditional Cree entertainment. "There were youth drummers from Chisasibi at the opening and the closing of the actual 30th anniversary on Sunday. These young people have such a powerful presence with their singing and everybody felt that. They were amazing," said Reid.

As for the rest of the celebration and why this gathering really happened, said Reid, "The Crees have a holistic approach to dealing with things and the way they organized it was to recognize the years of service by the employees. This was the highlight for me. It was the celebration of the 30 years.

"In total there were about 200-250 people at the event. We had people from the local and regional services, we had guests from the outside who worked to support us, and officials from the Ministry. We also had representatives from Eeyou Nation organizations like the Grand Council, Air Creebec, Creeco, the Board of Compensation and the community leadership. It was an overview of the leadership as we all work in partnership.

"Air Creebec provided a gift in recognition of the 30th anniversary of the Health Board and we were jokingly saying that we're the biggest client of Air Creebec, providing patient services."

Despite the flurry of activities that went on at the CHB's bash, what stood out most for Reid was the unbelievable commitment and devotion that some have contributed over the years. "What touched my heart the most were these people who have worked there for over 30 years. You have to

understand that the Health Board is only 30 years old, so these are people who worked on Fort George Island at the hospital and they became the first employees of the Health Board when they were transferred in 1977. That is what touched me the most, the number of years of service that some of these individuals put in."

The guest speaker for the event was Louise Montreuil from the Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux. "She was the principal negotiator for the Ministry at the time of these negotiations that culminated with the health agreement in 2005. She is also the representative of First Nations Health and Social Services in the province of Quebec. So, she was the guest speaker on behalf of Health Minister Philippe Couillard. We had extended an invitation to Couillard but he had a prior commitment. And so, we had Louise come in," said Reid.

Reid herself gave the closing speech at the two-day event and part of her speech was intended to remind the public that she has to run in an election to hold her position sometime this summer. "It was really just to announce that my term will be done in August because now the CHB has attained the status to have a general election of the chair of the Health Board. On November 20, 2007, the National Assembly sanctioned the legislative amendment to have a general election for the position of chair of the board," explained Reid.

She and her associates were, at the time of this interview, in a rush to put a general election bylaw into place and everything else necessary for an election for an elected chair.

"The general population of the Cree Nation will vote for a chair of the Health Board in the same way that they vote for a school-board chair or for a Grand Council leader," said Reid.

"I look forward to an election as I have every confidence in my people. They have demonstrated accountability and responsibility in their general voting and in general elections of Cree leadership in the past. I feel that they can do the same for the Health Board," she said.



James Bobbish and Diane Reid



Painting given to Minister Couillard



# ANNUAL CREE DAY CELEBRATIONS

May 27 & 28, 2008  
Mistissini, Quebec

Cree School Board  
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30 years  
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1978-2008

Commission scolaire Crie

## This year the Cree School Board will be marking its 30th Anniversary!

**On May 27**, Cree Day/Annie Whiskeychan Day will be spent honouring our Cree heritage and culture through various activities hosted by each school. This is a proud day for our students and teachers who continue to work hard to prepare their activities for this grand event. This day will end with a night of Cree activities and dancing.

**On May 28, the 30th Anniversary Day is reserved to honour our students; past, present and future.**

If you are a student who completed high school, continuing education or vocational training in one of the Cree communities, or a post secondary graduate, we encourage you to contact Wanda Loon through the form available on our CSB website or through the form available in *the Nation* magazine. We want to honour each of our Cree School Board students, so please contact us if you are one of our many graduates.

We will also have a special documentary screening which will provide our guests with a history of how the Cree School Board was established to how it is governed today; through its many challenges, struggles and achievements.

This day will end with a night of fun entertainment, leaving us all with memories to last another 30 years.

On behalf of the Cree School Board 30th Anniversary Planning Committee, I would like to thank the Council of Commissioners and the Director General for their continued support with this project.

**Bella Mianscum, Project Coordinator  
Cree School Board 30th Anniversary  
Planning Committee**

For additional information, please  
feel free to contact us by email at  
[emmamianscum@cscree.qc.ca](mailto:emmamianscum@cscree.qc.ca)



The late Annie Whiskeychan





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Cree School Board  
Commission scolaire crie

## Calling all Cree School Board Graduates "Honouring the Achievements of our Students!"

The Cree School Board is planning for its 30th Anniversary Celebrations for May 28, 2008 to be held in Mistissini, Quebec. We are researching on all students who have graduated from high school, vocational and post secondary programs. We are planning to showcase all Cree graduates who were sponsored by the CSB and who have accomplished their educational endeavors in various disciplines. If you are a graduate, please email your contact information and picture to: [graduates@cscree.qc.ca](mailto:graduates@cscree.qc.ca) or fax it to (418) 923-2020.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax #: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Graduated from:	Year (s)	Institution (s)	Program (s)
High School	_____	_____	_____
Continuing Education	_____	_____	_____
College Diploma	_____	_____	_____
Vocational Program	_____	_____	_____
University	_____	_____	_____

If more than one, please list them according to the years.

For more information, please contact Wanda Loon at [wloon@rogers.com](mailto:wloon@rogers.com) fax: (613) 741-5033

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## PRESERVING OUR TRADITION

By Amy German

Tamarack decoys, snowshoes, spruce baskets and moose-hide mitts, gloves and slippers are all products that were traditionally made by the Crees but their production has seen a decline since colonization and the intrusion of the modern world.

In an attempt to keep traditional arts and crafts from falling by the wayside the Cree Native Arts and Crafts Association (CNACA) is hard at work researching these traditional wares and teaching the people how to keep the customs alive.

Darryl Hester, who develops and runs the various training programs that the CNACA offers, said, "Our main goal is to revive Cree arts."

CNACA's objective is not just about teaching arts and crafts to community members but also researching the history behind these products and reintegrating the traditional tools used to make them in an attempt to piece together every aspect of Cree cultural arts.

"We are in the process of recreating these different arts and crafts that we have lost over time. We are still doing research and not only on the crafts but also on the music and the arts," said Hester.

Last November, CNACA held its first traditional training for tamarack-decoy making in Waskaganish. The three-week course attracted 15 participants who had the opportunity to reconnect with their cultural past.

The course was taught by Roderick Blackned and his son, Harvey, who was in charge of harvesting of the tamarack branches.

"(Harvey) took the trainees out and showed them which trees to take branches from. If you want to make an actual decoy for goose hunting, you use branches from a darker tree while the lighter branches are used more for decorative decoys," explained Hester.

"(The participants) made traditional decoys, the ones with the hole in the head. They made ones that look like sitting birds with folded wings, as well as the flying decoys that look like they are about to land," said Hester.

To make a tamarack decoy, said Hester, "What they do is create a ball, which is the body. Then you lay the longer branches down and place the ball in the middle – this is when the sewing comes in. They sew the decoy





30th Anniversary



1978 - 2008

## Congratulations to the Cree Health Board on their 30th Anniversary

The Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Regional Authority wishes to congratulate the Cree Health Board and Social Services on its 30th Anniversary. Over the years, the Cree Health Board and Social Services has undergone significant changes in the communities to increase the level of care and services for our people. In 2005, we signed a new Cree Health Agreement for the provision of more resources and to increase the standard and level of services for the Cree Nation. We thank those many past and present employees of the Cree Health Board and Social Services for their dedication, service and professionalism.

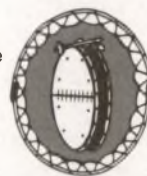
Grand Chief  
Matthew Mukash

Deputy Grand Chief  
Ashley Iserhoff



G.C.C.E.I.

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**Cree Regional Authority**  
**Administration regional Crie**  
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**Grand Council of the Crees**  
**(Eeyou Istchee)**  
**Grand conseil des Cris**  
**(Eeyou Istchee)**



C.R.A.  
A.R.C.





photos courtesy of Darryl S. Hester

into shape. They start from the tail, go into the body area and then the neck and head. When they have shaped it, it should look like a goose. It's not hard to learn but it takes practice. I even created one when they did the training."

According to Hester, someone with well-honed skills can make a small tamarack in about two-to-three hours while the larger type, the kind traditionally used for hunting, takes about five or six hours.

The tamarack-making course is just the beginning. Since CNACA began its initiative in August 2004, it has been gathering information on how the crafts were originally made. Now it wants to offer a course on the traditional preparation of moose hide for garments and accessories as well as courses on making spruce baskets, snowshoes and canoe paddles.

CNACA's intentions are to eventually run the courses year-round so that the crafted products can be made according to the seasons when they were traditionally produced.

"In the fall we hunt moose and get the moose hide and prepare it. In the winter we start scraping and thinning it, depending on how thick or thin we want the hide to be. Then in the spring we do the tanning and the smoking, which is done with a specific tree. And in the summer we do the sewing part. So it's a yearlong training," said Hester.

The same tanned moose hide will also be used for the netting in the snowshoes.

To promote CNACA courses and to ensure that they are historically accurate, Hester travels from community to community doing research and gathering information. "We are doing community tours right now which will be ongoing and this is where we will find out about some of the original tools and crafts and how they were done and where they originated. Like the tamarack, it originated from Waskaganish so there

are more designers and crafters who make tamaracks in Waskaganish than anywhere else. It's the same thing with the spruce baskets," he said.

As the courses are only being taught in Waskaganish, this will require community members who wish to partake in the cultural experience to travel. Funding has been made available to those who wish to take time out for the unique cultural enrichment. "CNACA covers the travel cost and the training fees and there are funding groups that we go to like the CRA, the Grand Council and the Canada Council for the Arts," said Hester.

Those who take the courses will also have an opportunity to be remunerated for their crafts, should they wish to sell them. As CNACA tours the various trade shows and events where crafts are sold, it has taken several students down to Montreal. The students can connect directly with the customers buying their wares and are allowed to keep the profits. Part of the idea behind this move is that Crees can eventually start their own business selling traditional products to the general public. Eventually CNACA will also be set up to sell the products online.

Though Hester still has a long road ahead of him in terms of getting the courses up and running, CNACA has become his labour of love and his connection to the past.

"It's about time that we had an organization like this that is preserving, promoting and enhancing the Cree culture, skills and traditions. In the long term, it will be really good. With the generation we have today, it feels like we are losing everything. With all of the (modern) diversions, it's not like we are losing the land but we have to fight to save our traditions and our culture so I think this is the way to go and that it's really good," said Hester.





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**Technical Services** [www.cra-csa.ca](http://www.cra-csa.ca)

## PROJECT MANAGEMENT TRAINING 2008-2009

The Cree Regional Authority has secured funding for interested persons to take the *Algonquin College Project Management Certificate Program and Proposed Learning Program*, that will take place in Mistissini and Waskaganish.

Mistissini: May 26, 2008 - February 20, 2009

Waskaganish: June 9, 2008 - March 20, 2009

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MGT5079 Project Definition and Planning

MGT5083 Project Management and the Human Interface

MGT5084 Project Management Scheduling and Software

MGT5085 Project Risk Control and Quality Management

MGT5086 Contracting and Procurement in Project Management

MGT5087 Directed Studies in Project Management

For more information contact:

Emmett MacLeod - Coordinator of Technical Services

[macleode@cra.qc.ca](mailto:macleode@cra.qc.ca)

Tel: 418-770-9788

or visit:

<http://www.cra-csa.ca> for full details.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

### ELECTION FOR THE OFFICE OF YOUTH GRAND CHIEF/CHAIRPERSON OF THE CREE NATION YOUTH COUNCIL (EYYOU ISTCHEE)

TO ALL CREE YOUTH BENEFICIARIES (AGES 13 – 35) OF EYYOU ISTCHEE

TAKE NOTICE THAT THE CREE  
NATION YOUTH COUNCIL (EYYOU ISTCHEE)  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAVE  
SET A DATE FOR THE ELECTIONS  
TO THE OFFICE OF YOUTH GRAND  
CHIEF/CHAIRPERSON AS FOLLOWS:

TUESDAY, JUNE 17, 2008

POLLS will be open from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

NOMINATION FORMS will be available either at the  
Local Youth Departments or from the following:

Charly Washipabano  
Chief Electoral Officer  
Cree Nation Youth Council  
32 Amisk Street  
Mistissini, Quebec  
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Cellular: (418) 770-6927  
Fax: (418) 923-3285  
E-mail: [cwash@cra.qc.ca](mailto:cwash@cra.qc.ca)

Edna L. Neeposh  
Assistant Electoral Officer  
Cree Nation Youth Council  
2 Lakeshore Road  
Nemaska, Quebec  
J0Y 3B0

Phone: (819) 673-2600  
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CREE NATION YOUTH  
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CONSEIL DES JEUNES  
DE LA NATION CREE  
(Eeyou Istchee)

THE DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS IS:  
**TUESDAY, MAY 27, 2008 at 5:00 p.m.**



# For the female persuasion

## Annual trade show focuses on all the things women need

By Amy German

Though the Montreal Women's Show, held at the Palais de Congrès April 4-6, was an event geared towards women, it did beg the question, "What kind of women?"

The exposition floor was a flurry with exhibitors hawking just about every variety of cosmetic, cosmetic process, feminine-hygiene product, cleaning product, diet product and health-food product known to woman along with toys, financial services and a few professional organizations. One would possibly even think that this show might be ideal...for the kind of girl whose priority in life is pleasing her husband and family.

Its website boasted that the show "offers a fantastic day out with girlfriends that you can't find anywhere else! With everything from food and wine sampling to fashion and beauty; there will be celebrity guest speakers, fashion shows, free makeovers, tips for staying healthy, home décor and entertaining ideas, travel options plus career advice and over 300 exhibitors!"

The show was packed with gaggles of gals winding through the exhibition aisles toting bags packed with brand-new wares from the show but the show itself offered very little in terms of intellectual or even spiritual fulfillment. Dentists' chairs lined the aisles as women lay back in them, wearing protective goggles with neon black lighting over their heads to bleach their teeth.

An abundance of chiropractors were also there, pointing out bad posture and suggesting their services. While some women received massages, had their hair straightened, learned about how to get cleaner laundry and new organic health foods and supplements, the vast majority of products being pushed on the ladies were creams, scrubs, washes and enough make-up to keep a drag queen show running for an eternity. Save for one kiosk that was selling French-only books on angels, the show was seemingly devoid of actual books for sale.

At the heart of the showroom floor was its crowning glory, a large booth set up by Éthéré Spa Médico-Dentaire featured a doctor injecting Restylane into women's faces to reverse the devastating effects of aging, so it would seem.

According to Dr. Kevin Khue Tu, who was injecting this gel into the faces of some of the show's "lucky" patrons, "Restylane is a hyaluronic acid. It's a product that already exists in your system. There is a lot of it already under your skin and you can also find a lot of this product is in your bones. This product is used to give your skin more elasticity and to lubricate your articulation. The ideal age for this product is between 35 and 55 but there are always exceptions to the rule – I have given it to an 86-year-old woman."

Harley Davidson was also on-site trying to capitalize on its newest market: women. Chantal Cournoyer of Harley Davidson Montreal stated, "We did a (market) test in Toronto and it worked so well that we decided to come here to present the motorcycles to women. These days, on the market, 14% of motorcycle sales are to women."



Walking the runway

At one tiny table in the middle of the show room, the event's only lobby group could be found, Le Commission de l'équité salariale, who exist for the sole purpose of ensuring pay equity between men and women in Quebec businesses with 10 or more employees. Whereas the booth was ultimately relevant to the women's show, "Joanne," who was staffing the booth but would not give her last name, roared in laughter when I mentioned how women in this country are essentially "screwed," since the Conservative government killed the pay equity act back in 2006. "Yes, we are," she said.

When it came to careers and finances, just about every credit card and financial services company in the country was on hand to attract new customers. There were also a handful of schools there to promote their programs, particularly in fashion and design. The Canadian military also had a booth there trying to get new recruits. Though the soldiers would not grant us an interview, they seemed strangely out of place amongst all of the frills, fragrances, creams and exercise equipment.

For those seeking to improve their inner as well as their outer selves, there were a number of life coaches and personal organizers on hand to help. Unfortunately most of that "coaching" centered around being attractive like the lawofattractionstuff.com table whose saleswoman boasted, "What we do is sell tools that help put the law of attraction into action on a daily basis."

In the end, the show that was designed to be a "fun day for the ladies" might not have been enjoyable for every woman. In Canada, women fuel a multi-billion dollar cosmetics industry along with an equally cash-fuelled cosmetic-surgery market. Just as we are usually the household member in charge of cooking and cleaning, we are also more concerned with the health of our families. This is not to say that there isn't a general interest amongst women in all of the above-mentioned industries or products, but at the same time, we do deserve a little more credit.

[http://www.nationalwomenshow.com/montreal\\_eng](http://www.nationalwomenshow.com/montreal_eng)

# EMPLOYMENT



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Grand conseil des Cris  
(Eeyou Istchee)



TITLE:

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STATUS:

PERMANENT FULL-TIME

DEPARTMENT:

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

LOCATION OF WORK:

NEMASKA – HEAD OFFICE

COMPETITION NUMBER:

CRA - 200803

The Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Regional Authority (GCCEI/CRA) is presently seeking a highly motivated individual to perform a range of administrative and technical duties as Sports Program Technician for the Sports and Recreation Coordination Office.

Salary for the position is determined by the CRA salary administration policy in consideration of qualifications and experience. The GCCEI/CRA offers excellent employee benefits which include Group Insurance and Pension Plan.

If you are interested, we encourage you to apply. Please forward your application along with your curriculum vitae to the attention of:

### JOHNNY TRAPPER

Director of Office & Personnel

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2, Lakeshore Road, Nemaska, Quebec JOY 3B0

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E-mail: [jtrapper@cra.qc.ca](mailto:jtrapper@cra.qc.ca)

**Deadline to apply is May 29, 2008.**

*For more information concerning this position, please contact:*

*John Henry Wapachee, CRA Regional Recreation Coordinator*

*Telephone: 819-673-2600, ext. 232*





# UNDER THE NORTHERN SKY

## Lesson of the frozen geese

by Xavier Kataquapit

**I**t is 1930 on the James Bay coast and spring has arrived on the frozen tundra. After weeks of warm weather, the Niska, the Cree word for geese, have finally arrived after a long hard winter. The Cree of the James Bay coast are leading their nomadic and self-sufficient lifestyle as they have for thousands of years. They roam the land in rhythm to the movement of the migrating animals that come and go with the seasons.

With spring the hunters and their families are making their way to the hunting grounds on the shores of James Bay, inland waterways, the open areas of the mushkeg and the northern tundra on the coast of Hudson Bay. The more successful families that have survived the winter move over the land with a dog team to pull their sleds while the less fortunate ones resort to walking great distances to get to their destinations.

The weather has turned bitterly cold and there is a bone-chilling wind blowing across the frozen land. A hunter and his family are walking over the jagged ice and snow to their goose-hunting grounds at the edge of the tundra. They have on an odd assortment of dark-coloured clothing that includes old thin parkas, fur-lined hats, thick wool pants and moccasins that bind their feet tightly in warm layers of cloth and hide.

The adults are pulling heavy toboggans and young children are working hard to keep up with the group. It is mid-April and the Niska should be flying overhead to give relief to the families that can no longer access their inland trapping grounds due to the melting ice and snow. The cold has stopped the Niska migration and the people are hungry.

As the group walks across a snow-covered expanse of familiar tundra marsh, they discover several small round dark-coloured humps nearly hidden by the drifting snow. On closer examination, the round humps are actually the grey-and-brown feathers of a Canada goose or Niska.

The family is surprised to find a frozen goose that had been caught by the sudden cold snap and succumbed to the freezing weather. As the family looks further, they discover that they have happened on an entire flock of frozen migrating Niska that have been trapped by the sudden arrival of a late winter storm.

Amazingly they find a field of frozen Niska hidden under a light dusting of snow. They will not be relying on the skilled use and the luck of a shotgun to bring them their food this spring. By the good grace of Mother Earth they will survive the next few months on the unexpected

gift of a bounty of frozen Niska that was given to them by the land.

This springtime story has been passed down in our family and I have heard it many times from my uncles and from my father Marius. The group described in this story is none other than my own ancestors in the form of my grandfather James Kataquapit and his family.

At first glance it is a story that celebrates the gift of food at a very critical moment and a family that was grateful to receive the Niska just in the nick of time as they trekked near Winisk on Hudson Bay.

However, another lesson was provided in this story and it was one that every traditional person respects while travelling on the land at any time of the year. It is a lesson that shows that we are all held at the mercy of Mother Earth. Even during a time when the seasons have changed and warmth has arrived, there is still the possibility and danger that cold weather can come to devastate those who are unprepared and unfortunate enough to be in the wrong place at the wrong time.

This story is one example of why my dad and all the old hunters still pack a toboggan full of cold-weather gear as if it were the middle of February for a goose-hunting expedition they take in the middle of spring thaw in April.

Those Niska that froze in the ice were indeed surprised by Mother Earth. Although these birds normally read the weather extremely well they do get caught from time to time.

In a way as humans we are experiencing a similar surprise ourselves. Although we should have been able to see global warming many years ago we were ignorant to the signs from our planet that our pollution was affecting the entire globe. Still, even though the weather and life on earth as we know it is changing rapidly before our eyes, to a great degree we are ignoring the real danger of what our careless activities are doing to our environment.

There is a third lesson in the story of the trapped-and-frozen Niska. Niska are smart enough to flee a cold-weather front even if it is days away from them. Sometimes they are not capable of moving fast enough from an oncoming storm and they are trapped.

We humans can see ominous clouds of bad weather that signal global warming on our horizon but we for some reason are not quick to act. If we are not careful then we will be frozen in our tracks like the Niska my grandfather collected on the tundra flats of Hudson Bay in 1930.

## EMPLOYMENT



CREECO is seeking a web developer to update its website.

Qualified individuals should send their resume no later than May 30, 2008.

For more information, please contact:

**Rodney Hester,**  
Business Development Coordinator  
203 Opemiska Meskino  
Ouje-Bougoumou, QC. G0W 3C0

## EMPLOYMENT

### Environmental Analyst

Organization: James Bay Advisory Committee on the Environment (JBACE)

#### Qualifications

- Two (2) years of relevant work experience in the environment field.
- Master's degree in a field of biophysical sciences, environmental sciences or land use planning.
- Language: proficiency in spoken English and French (knowledge of Cree an asset).

See JBACE web site for details:

[www.ccebj-jbace.ca](http://www.ccebj-jbace.ca) or call 514-296-4400.

**Contest ends on May 23, 2008.**



Comité consultatif pour l'environnement de la Baie James  
James Bay Advisory Committee on the Environment  
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## EMPLOYMENT

### POSITION: Head Chef

TERM: Full-Time (six month's probation)

SALARY: According to Qualifications, Experience & Budget

DUTIES: As Per Listed (but not limited to)



#### Requirements

The successful candidate will have:

- Secondary V, with chef's training or equivalent work experience to be considered as a definite asset;
- good cooking and meal planning skills;
- an excellent ability to work well and calmly under pressure;
- an ability to work independently and as part of a team;
- good organizational skills as well as people management and communication skills;
- The ability to speak Cree and English, with knowledge of French to be considered as an asset.

#### Duties

Reporting to the Manager and the Assistant Manager, the Head Chef is responsible for overseeing the operations of the kitchen and kitchen staff. Specific tasks include, but are not limited to:

- supervising and preparing work schedules for cooks and dishwashers/cook helpers, and ensuring that cooks rotate shifts on the "frontline", "daily specials", "breakfasts/brunches" and "desserts";
- arranging replacement workers in the event of absences;
- planning and pricing well-balanced menus, and reviewing same on a regular basis according to seasonal availability and costs;

- ensuring equipment is fully functional and in a good state of repair;
- ensuring the kitchen area is always kept in a clean and orderly state and that staff maintain excellent hygiene standards;
- verifying daily food checklist;
- verifying food quality on a daily basis, such as checking "best before" dates and ensuring refrigerated food is rotated correctly (i.e. using older ingredients first);
- overseeing efficient use of ingredients;
- ordering food and kitchen supplies;
- instructing, overseeing, and helping staff in the preparation, cooking, garnishing, and presentation of food;
- providing assistance and feedback to cooks on "daily special" planning;
- assisting Management in the selection of new kitchen staff and in the evaluation of existing staff;
- reporting offences under the Personnel Policy to Management;
- Other tasks that may from time to time be assigned by the Manager or Assistant Manager as the case may be.

P.O. Box 360, Waskaganish, Quebec, J0M-1R0, [info@kanio-kasheelodge.ca](mailto:info@kanio-kasheelodge.ca), tel: (819) 895-2005 fax: (819) 895-2008



# CLASSIFIEDS

## BIRTHDAYS

I would like wish my girlfriend Sherry-Ann Sheshamush a Happy Birthday on May 24 and I would like to wish her a happy Mother's day. I love you with all my heart. Love alway's Owen Simard...xoxo. We wanna wish a Happy Birthday to Willam Josie Shecapio on May 8, we miss you. you take care. No party's eh!...alway's remember we will always be there for you. From your family in Mistissini Mom, sister's, brother's, nieces.

I would like to wish a Happy birthday to William (Nimajune) Shecapio. We miss you very much. Enjoy your special day. No party's eh?...lol.j/k.. From: Mom Sarah, sister's Catherine and Sherry-Ann, Brother's Shawn and Nigel and your nieces Faith, Demeriah Sheshamush, Alison-Grace Blacksmith and Sheralyn Simard. P.S....take of yourself.

Happy Birthday to my grandson, Isaac Stevens & my sister Elizabeth. Both have the same birth-date: May 20, 2008. Hope you have a great day.hello?! from kookum/sister Maggie.

A birthday wish to someone very special, my Mom, Emma Happyjack, on May 15th, n" many more coming your way. Enjoy your special day, Mom, as special as you are, n' I love you very much. Love always n' forever, your daughter.

Happy 3rd Birthday to Bailey Turner in Thunder Bay, Ontario on May 29th, 2008. Hope you have fun at your birthday party, and get lots of presents. Love coming from Mom, Dad, Alexandria, Jordan, Jake, Vanessa, Jaimee, Kaylynn, Trey, Bailey, and the Turner family in Moose Factory, ON and Wapachee family in Mistissini, P.Q.

Happy 17th Birthday to Jordan Turner in Moose Factory, Ontario on May 26th, 2008. Hope your day is a special one. Love coming from Dad, Lillian, Alexandria, Jake, Vanessa, Jaimee, Kaylynn, Trey, Bailey and the rest of the Turner family in Moose Factory.

Happy 17th Birthday to Alexandria McLeod in Thunder Bay, Ontario on May 4th, 2008. Hope your day

is a special one. Love coming from Mom, Russell, Jordan, Jake, Vanessa, Jaimee, Kaylynn, Trey, Bailey.

I would like to wish a Happy 27th Birthday to my brother Bobby! I know you haven't heard me say this to you as often as I should! I love you my brother! You are always in my prayers my brother! I love you and have a safe Goose Break with Mom and Dad!...:) Take care and I love you! Oh yeah and.....> HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!D:D Love your sister Melanie! XOX

We would like to wish a Happy 3rd Birthday to a very special little boy, Ethan Moses Happyjack, on April 22 2008! Anajabwehsha! I miss you so much my little nephew! Hope your day will be as special as you are in my heart! May God be with you on ur day! Miss you so much! Wish I was there to see you blow out ur candle: (! I love you! And have a very nice day Boysh! Love and prayers always: Melanie & Sinclair Neeposh and ur all ur cuzns in Waswanipi!...MissYou!:(

I would like to wish a happy belated 18th birthday to my sis Mary Jayne Trapper on April 18, 08. I hope you had a great day. Once again, Happy 18th birthday sis and I love you so much. Fr. ur big and small sisters RJTT and LCBT.

I wanna wish a Happy Birthday to Sebastien Neeposh on May 4, 08 and Sylvester Bruce Shecapio on May 28, 08. I hope you will blow out your 11 candles after goose break two of you boyz I love you so much boyz. Fr.your aunty panty Cynthia.

I just want to wish a Happy belated birthday to Charlie Cookie on April 7, 08, to my bro Morley Shecapio on April 12, 08 and to my sis in-law Jennifer Shecapio on April 14, 08. I hope you enjoy your birthdays as much as I enjoy having you around and many more to come. HAPPY BELATED BIRTHDAY.

I would like to wish Happy Belated Birthday to my brother John Kanatewat on April 21, 2008 and also to my nephew Davey-James Matoush (aka D-J & lazy cheeks) who turned 2 on April 26, 2008. I

know I'm late, you know as they always say...better late than never...lol :) Love you guys mmwah! especially big kisses to those lazy cheeks, until you cry as always 'D-J'...lol. Love your sister/aunt Judy.

Happy Birthday to Steve Petawabano: oh this poem's for you! No matter how far we're away you will always be my BABY. I will always be here for you. Teddy bears and seas of blue; Smiling in honor of you; An infant, not long ago; Now, one candle is aglow; You are growing up so fast; How quickly a year has passed; You are special, sweet, and wise; A present before our eyes; For a year, I've watched you shine; An angel I can call mine; Sent from Heaven, just for me; Filled with hope and dignity; A blessing, now and always; You brighten all of my days; Precious child, I love you so; More than anyone could know; Baby's breath and sun-filled skies; Ladybugs and lullabies; Starry nights and bright moonbeams; Tender hearts and lasting dreams; Each, a gift within your view; During this time, made for you; May only good things come your way; On this, your very first birthday; Love always Heather NineO'clock (Sister).

Happy belated birthdays to my children in Waswanipi----Joshua turned 6 on March 11, Florrie turned 5 on April 18 and Happy upcoming Birthday to my other son Donovan turning 8 on May 16. I miss you all and I cannot wait for school to be over so we can spend the whole summer together in Nemaska. You're in my heart and love always JIMBO, Nemaska.

## WEDDINGS

I would like to congratulate my friend Priscilla Bosum & her husband to be Mr.Waylon Martinhunter on their not-so recent engagement, because I just found out about it through your bebo's...lol...I guess bebo is the best place to advertise these days...hehehe...Hey Prissy girl its been soooooo long since you and I had a decent conversation. Perhaps you and I should get together sometime when you come out my way...in the wild wild west:P I miss you and want to meet that hubby of yours...I remembered to write here in "The Nation" cause I knew you'd be reading this...after all you ALWAYS liked to read this magazine when you still lived up here, heck you even subscribed to it and I just so happened to be able to find this site on the net :). I am so happy you found the happiness you always wanted, you deserve it. Didn't I always tell you that someday you would find MR.Right and you know what? I think this time he definitely is the one for you girl...I just have a good feeling about him:). Peace out girl and give the girls my love, from your sister who is also your bestest friend in Alberta...Marylinn Cardinal. \*By the way don't forget to send me an invitation\*\*

## ANNIVERSARIES

I would like to say Happy 24th anniversary to my parents Pierre and Ruby Coon-Come...We love you both so so much .... Priscilla Coon-Come. would



**PATRICK DESCARREAU**  
QUEBEC LAND SURVEYOR  
CANADA LANDS SURVEYOR



acts - aatc

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La Sarre (Quebec) J9Z 1N7

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# CLASSIFIEDS

## PERSONAL MESSAGES

On March 16, 2008, I had ski doo accident, breaking my ankle in three places. It was hard for me. I was on bed rest for weeks. I could not walk. I started walking on crutches this day, but slowly recovering. I would like to thank a lot of ppl in life, so many names you all know who you are in Nemaska. I am talking about the ppl that helped me throughout my accident and the ppl that stood by me to help in any way they could. I want to thank my family members and especially to my mom Bessie and dad Charlie for being there. Thank you all from the bottom of my heart. JIMBO.

## MOTHERS DAY

When you have a mother; who cares so much for you; that anything you want; becomes her desires; When you have a mother; who is so understanding that; no matter what is bothering you; she can make you smile; When you have a mother; who is so strong that; no matter what obstacles she faces; she is always confident in front of you; When you have a mother; who actively pursues her goals in life; but includes you in all her goals; you are very lucky indeed; Having a mother like this; makes it easy to grow up; into a loving, strong adult; Thank you for being this kind of wonderful mother Mom. I would like to wish my mother a "Happy Mother's day" and wanna thank her from the bottom of my heart for always being there for me. I would also like to send this message out to all my Aunties in Mississini and Ojay and to my one and only sister Clara (I love you) and to all my friends who are mothers (you know who you are, too many to name one by one). Okay I'll name a few...Lisa S. Bosum (my sister in law), Naomi B. Neeposh, Theresa B. Coon, Lena Bosum, Maxine Bosum and you and you and her and them...lol...Anyways hope this day is special in every way. For all of them may the good Lord pour out his blessings upon your lives from: Priscilla Bosum in Ojay.

I would like to wish Happy Mother's day to my mother Sarah Shecapio. I love you. Thank you for always being there for me and my girls. Thank you for all your support. Also to my sister Catherine Sheshamush, Happy Mother's day. Take good care of your kiddo's. Love you both very much. From: Sherry-Ann Sheshamush (Mist).

We wanna wish our mother Sherry-Ann Sheshamush a Happy Mother's day. Also a Happy birthday on May 24. We love you so, so much. Love, your girl's Demeriah & Sheralyn.....xoxo.

Dolores Washipabano...my friend, my mother. I am so blessed to be your daughter, words will never express how much I'm thankful for all you've done for me & my girls. You've taught me

who I am today. I know I'll be following in similar steps as you... cause I am like you. I love you dearly, much love from your daughter, Catherine!

Happy Mother's Day going out to Sally Mianscum. Thanks for 'everything'. We miss you. Much love, Catherine & girls.

Wishing our mothers, Ms. Glenna Matoush & Mrs. Jane Blacksmith a Happy Mothers day. We thank you for your never-ending support. Just to let you know that you are both very unique in your own ways and that's what makes you extra special...wouldn't change you for the world, with all our love, Rach & Jess.

## PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Where to get help: bilingual, anonymous, confidential and free phone services, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

**Kid's Help Phone Line:** 1-800-668-6868 ([www.kidshelpphone.ca](http://www.kidshelpphone.ca))

**Youth helpline:** 1-800-263-2266 ([www.teljeunes.com](http://www.teljeunes.com))

**Parent helpline:** 1-800-361-5085 ([www.parenthelpline.ca](http://www.parenthelpline.ca))

**Drugs:** help and reference: 1-800-265-2626 ([www.drogue-aiderreference.qc.ca](http://www.drogue-aiderreference.qc.ca))

**Gambling:** help and reference: 1-800-265-2626 ([www.info-reference.qc.ca](http://www.info-reference.qc.ca))

**S.O.S. Conjugal Violence:** 1-800-363-9010 ([www.sosviolenceconjugale.com](http://www.sosviolenceconjugale.com))

**Health and Sexuality resources center:** 1-888-855-7432 (Monday to Friday, 9 am to 5 pm) ([www.criss.org](http://www.criss.org))

**Gay Helpline:** 1-888-505-1010 (Monday to Friday, 8 am to 3 am and Saturday-Sunday, 11 am to 3 am)

**The Native Women's Shelter of Montreal:** 1-866-403-4688. ([www.nwsm.info](http://www.nwsm.info))

## MOM WANTED

Long term team players needed for challenging permanent work in an often chaotic environment. Candidates must possess excellent communication and organizational skills, and be willing to work variable hours, which will include evenings and weekends and 24hour shifts on call. Some overnight travel required, including trips to primitive camping sites on rainy weekends and endless sports tournaments in far away cities. Travel expenses not reimbursed. Extensive courier duties also required.

**RESPONSIBILITIES:** Must provide on-the-site training in basic life skills, such as nose blowing. Must have strong skills in negotiating, conflict resolution and crisis management. Ability to suture flesh wounds a plus. Must be able to think out of the box but not lose track of the box, because you most likely will need it for a school project. Must reconcile petty cash disbursements and be proficient in managing budgets and resources fairly, unless you want to hear, "He got more than me!" for the rest of your life. Also, must be able to drive motor vehicles safely under loud and adverse conditions while simul-

taneously practicing above mentioned skills in conflict resolution. Must be able to choose your battles and stick to your guns. Must be able to withstand criticism, such as "You don't know anything." Must be willing to be hated at least temporarily, until someone needs \$5 to go skating. Must be willing to bite tongue repeatedly. Also, must possess the physical stamina of a pack mule and be able to go from zero to 60 mph in three seconds flat in case, this time, the screams from the backyard are not someone just crying wolf. Must be willing to face stimulating technical challenges, such as small gadget repair, mysteriously sluggish toilets and stuck zippers. Must screen phone calls, maintain calendars and coordinate production of multiple homework projects. Must have ability to plan and organize social gatherings for clients of all ages and mental outlooks. Must be willing to be indispensable one minute, an embarrassment the next. Must handle assembly and product safety testing of a half million cheap, plastic toys and battery operated devices. Also, must have a highly energetic entrepreneurial spirit, because fund-raiser will be your middle name. Must have a diverse knowledge base, so as to answer questions such as "What makes the wind move?" or "Where do babies come from?" on the fly. Must always hope for the best but be prepared for the worst. Must assume final, complete accountability for the quality of the end product. Responsibilities also include floor maintenance and janitorial work throughout the facility.

## POSSIBILITY FOR ADVANCEMENT AND PROMOTION:

Virtually none. Your job is to remain in the same position for years, without complaining, constantly retraining and updating your skills, so that those in your charge can ultimately surpass you.

**PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE:** None required, unfortunately. On-the-job training offered on a continually exhausting basis. College will help them become financially independent. When you die, you give them whatever is left. The oddest thing about this reverse-salary scheme is that you actually enjoy it and wish you could only do more.

**BENEFITS:** While no health or dental insurance, no pension, no tuition reimbursement, no paid holidays and no stock options are offered, job supplies limitless opportunities for personal growth and free hugs for life if you play your cards right.

## SALARY: 100% PURE LOVE, HUGS & KISSES BENEFITS!

Saw this poem online and I just loved it. I felt bad about me being a stay at home mom. While my husband-to-be was the only one bringing in the only source of income we have, but then I read this and it really made my day. Hope it made other stay-at-home mom's day also!



Tuesday June 10 10:00 am – 6:00 pm  
Wednesday June 11 8:00 am – 6:00 pm



IFAW  
INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR ANIMAL WELFARE  
[WWW.IFAW.ORG](http://WWW.IFAW.ORG)

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